

Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs to sponsor 18 special events during August 2016

(DOVER, Del.–July 19, 2016)–The [five museums of the state of Delaware](#) will be sponsoring 18 special events during the month of August 2016. A full schedule is included below. With the exception of DeBraak tours, all programs are free and open to the public.



Caesar Rodney



In the program "Caesar Rodney Meets Dr. Who" that will take

place at The Old State House on Aug. 6, 2016, Dr. Who (right) will step in to rescue Caesar Rodney from aliens, allowing Rodney to complete his historic ride to Philadelphia to break the deadlock in favor of ratifying the Declaration of Independence.

Administered by the Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs, the five museums—the John Dickinson Plantation, the Johnson Victrola Museum, the New Castle Court House Museum, The Old State House and the Zwaanendael Museum—tell the story of the First State’s contributions to the history and culture of the United States. Through tours, exhibits, school programs and hands-on activities, the museums shine a spotlight on Delaware’s unique history and the diverse people who came to live there. The New Castle Court House Museum and the John Dickinson Plantation are partner sites of the [First State National Historical Park](#). The Old State House is located on the Dover Green, another partner site of the park. Go to the following for a [comprehensive, long-term calendar of events sponsored by the Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs](#).

Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs special programs, August 2016

Wednesdays and Thursdays, Aug. 3, 4, 10, 11, 17, 18, 24, 25 and 31, 2016

“Lost Off Lewes: The British Warship DeBraak.” Special tour explores the 18th-century history, artifacts and the surviving hull section of this shipwreck. [Zwaanendael Museum](#), 102 Kings Highway, Lewes. 9 a.m. Limited seating. Admission \$10 by reservation only through the Shop Delaware website (go to <http://shop.delaware.gov> and click on “Tours”

in the "Categories" column). For additional information, call 302-645-1148.

Wednesdays, Aug. 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31, 2016

"Weaving Wednesdays." Indoor, staff-led program in which visitors will learn how to weave a blanket or rag rug. [John Dickinson Plantation](#), 340 Kitts Hummock Road, Dover. Program 11 a.m.–3 p.m. Museum open 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m. 302-739-3277.



Weaving demonstration
at the John Dickinson
Plantation.

Saturday, Aug. 6, 2016

"Some Like Classical." Program explores some of Victor Records' earliest recordings of classical music accompanied by 78-rpm records played on authentic Victor Talking Machines. [First Saturday in the First State](#) program. [Johnson Victrola Museum](#), 375 S. New St., Dover. 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m. 302-739-3262.

Saturday, Aug. 6, 2016

"Caesar Rodney Meets Dr. Who." In celebration of [Dover Comic Con](#), this inter-active program examines what would have happened if aliens had tried to interfere with Caesar Rodney's triumphant journey to Philadelphia to break the tie

for the Declaration of Independence, and how the problem would have been solved if Dr. Who stepped in to help Rodney. [First Saturday in the First State](#) program. [The Old State House](#), 25 The Green, Dover. Programs at 11 a.m., 1 and 3 p.m. Museum open 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Free admission. 302-744-5054.

Saturday, Aug. 6, 2016

“Raiding the Mansion–Plundering the House of all its Provisions.” Interactive tours will bring the 1781 Tory raid on the plantation to life. [John Dickinson Plantation](#), 340 Kitts Hummock Road, Dover. Program 11 a.m.–3 p.m. Museum open 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Free admission. 302-739-3277.

Saturday, Aug. 13, 2016

Demonstrations by the Thistledown Fiber Arts Guild. Program explores spinning, weaving, knitting and other fabric arts. [John Dickinson Plantation](#), 340 Kitts Hummock Road, Dover. Program 1–3 p.m. Museum open 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Free admission. 302-739-3277.

Exhibits and displays, August 2016

In addition to special programming, the Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs is sponsoring the following exhibits and displays. Admission is free and open to the public:

Thru Dec. 31, 2016

“[Wine and Spirits in Delaware: Producing, Preserving, and Presenting](#).” Exhibit features objects and graphics from the 18th to the 21st centuries that illustrate Delaware’s wine and spirits trade. [Zwaanendael Museum](#), 102 Kings Highway, Lewes. April 1–Oct. 31: Tue.–Sat., 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m.; Sun., 1:30–4:30 p.m. Nov. 1–March 31: Wed.–Sat., 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m. 302-645-1148.



Containers and accessories from Levy & Glosking distillers of Dover, Del. Part of the exhibit, "Wine and Spirits in Delaware: Producing, Preserving, and Presenting."

Thru mid-April, 2017

"The Old State House: A True Restoration 1976-2016." Display explores preservation work that has been conducted since Delaware's first state capitol building was restored to its original appearance in 1976. From the collections of the State of Delaware. The Old State House, 25 The Green, Dover. Mon.–Sat., 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Sun., 1:30–4:30 p.m. 302-744-5054.

Ongoing

"Discovering Delaware's Maritime Past." Display explores the DeBraak, a shipwrecked 18th-century British warship including a photo of the hull recovery, reproductions of items aboard ship, and a model of the vessel. Zwaanendael Museum, 102 Kings Highway, Lewes. April 1–Oct. 31: Tue.–Sat., 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m.; Sun., 1:30–4:30 p.m. Nov. 1–March 31: Wed.–Sat., 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m. 302-645-1148.

Ongoing

"Emeline Hawkins: Her Journey From Slavery to Freedom on the Underground Railroad." Exhibit chronicles the compelling

story of Emeline Hawkins and her family and their 1845 odyssey on the Underground Railroad from slavery in Maryland, through Delaware to freedom in Pennsylvania. [New Castle Court House Museum](#), 211 Delaware St., New Castle. Tue.–Sat., 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Sun., 1:30 p.m.–4:30 p.m. 302-323-4453.

Ongoing

[“A Seaborne Citizenry: The DeBraak and Its Atlantic World.”](#)

Exhibit utilizes artifacts recovered from His Majesty’s Sloop of War DeBraak, a British warship that sank off the Delaware coast on May 25, 1798 to tell the story of the vessel, its crew and the historical context within which it operated in the Atlantic World of the late 18th century. [Zwaanendael Museum](#), 102 Kings Highway, Lewes. April 1–Oct. 31: Tue.–Sat., 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m.; Sun., 1:30–4:30 p.m. Nov. 1–March 31: Wed.–Sat., 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m. 302-645-1148.

Ongoing

[Sculpture by Charles Parks](#). Display of works by the noted Wilmington artist featuring historical and political figures including a Minute Man, and presidents Richard Nixon, Gerald Ford and George W. Bush. [New Castle Court House Museum](#), 211 Delaware St., New Castle. Tue.–Sat., 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Sun., 1:30 p.m.–4:30 p.m. 302-323-4453.



Bust of Richard Nixon
by Charles Parks. The
work is currently on-
display at the New
Castle Court House
Museum.

Ongoing

"Simple Machines." Exhibit demonstrating the six "simple machines"—incline ramp, screw, wedge, pulley, lever and wheel—that constitute the elementary building blocks of which many more-complicated machines are composed. [John Dickinson Plantation](#), 340 Kitts Hummock Road, Dover. April 1–Sept. 30: Tue.–Sat., 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m.; Sun., 1:30–4:30 p.m. Oct. 1–March 31: Tue.–Sat., 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m. 302-739-3277.

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